

## Free Indeed 2019-07-14

### John 8:30-38

*As he was saying these things, many believed in him. So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

*They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."*

*I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father."*

1863 Emancipation Proclamation President Lincoln declared all slaves in US free!

- All want to be free. Nobody wants bondage/slavery.
  - Freedom always comes at cost to those who cherish freedom.

All slaves to sin: Jesus came set people free from sin, self. John 8:30-31, 37, 2:23, 6:66

- Not saving "belief": refuse truth/desired murder Jesus.
  - Quickly grasp Jesus' inference....they are slaves to sin!

Offended so used religious/ethnic and moral self-justification. John 8:32-35, 41, Romans 1:18

- Morally superior: Thought Jesus was born of sexual immorality and they weren't.
- Religious/ethnic self-justification: thought spiritually free/righteous through Abraham so entitled to all of God's blessings.
  - Jesus inferred if you are Abraham's son, you're Ishmael/slave, not Isaac/heir. Romans 9:6-8
    - Slave removed (sold/traded) anytime but son with Father forever.
  - As Son, Jesus also able free slaves...his Work. John 8:36, Luke 4:18
    - Jesus came to set you free from slavery to sin, self.

Most think..."I'm already free, I do what I feel like doing." Judges 17:6; 21:25;

Deuteronomy 12:8

- Distorted view of what freedom really is....like Prodigal Son. Luke 15:11-32
- Free from authority/restraints/law but bound by sin and serve selfish lusts.
  - The more bound by sin, the more inclined to say we free. Alcoholic, gossip

True freedom not do what want BUT ability to do what know pleases God.

- Can't because slaves of sin...somebody must set us free. John 8:31-32, Galatians 3:13
  - Jesus came to set you free from slavery to sin, self.

"Truth" here is the saving truth of the person and work of Jesus Christ.

- Gospel brings freedom from slavery to sin's power and punishment.
  - Forever free from fear of death, judgment. Free indeed....Gospel

True freedom comes thru genuine faith and by abiding/continue in Jesus' word.

- Jesus frees from slavery by changing nature thru new birth. Romans 6:6-7, 2 Corinthians 5:17
  - As abide in Jesus Christ and His word, we experience consistent victory over sin.
    - Christian...not have to live in bondage to sin.

Truth of Word sets free from slavery to sin by teaching us who we are in Jesus Christ and how to resist temptation/sin. 1 Corinthians 6:18a, 10:13, 2 Corinthians 10:5b,

- i.e. Taking thoughts captive will leads to freedom.
  - Thoughts where all sin begins.....Thoughts lead to actions.

Being “free indeed” not freedom to sin but freedom not to sin.

- True liberty produces joyful, loving obedience to God.
  - Life pattern of obedience. John 14:15-24, 15:10, Matthew 12:50
    - Not perfect but hate sin and not wanting to stumble.
- Irony, free used to return to slavery. Galatians 5:1, 13, 1 Peter 2:16, Romans 6:18, 22-23
  - Fulfill every “good” desire (no self-control) so enslaved to those selfish desires.....Jesus came set you free from slavery to self/flesh.

True freedom not do what want BUT ability to do what know pleases God.

- Gospel set you free from slavery to sin’s power and punishment.
  - Forever free from fear of death, judgment. Free indeed.
    - Free to delight in Jesus eternally, pursue the joy found in holiness.